to give full statutory powers to the Securities and Exchange Board of India to effectively regulate, promote and monitor the working of the Stock Exchanges;

(b) if so , the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which the legislation is likely to be enacted in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) to (c). A proposal for giving statutory powers to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is under consideration.

World Bank Assistance for Mega Projects

3798. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has decided not to extend any financial assistance to mega projects like big dams and large power plants in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the impact of this decision on the future of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Robbery in Public Sector Banks in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir

3799. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of robberies/ dacoities in public sector banks in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir during the last three months; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the security of the bank employees in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As per available information, there have been 3 incidents of robbery/ dacoity in public sector banks in the state of Punjab during the months of September, October and November,1991. No incident of robbery/dacoity has been reported during this period in Jammu & Kashmir.

(b) Government of India has reviewed the situation and the State Governments have intensified the security arrangements for banks.

[*Translation*]

Joint Venture Units Aboard

3801. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Indian Joint Venture Units Abroad;

(b) whether some of these units are not operational ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the places where such units are located ; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make these joint venture units operational ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) As on 30 th Nov., 1991 there were 232 joint venture units

abroad approved by Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) While some units are under implementation, the reasons for non-operation of certain joint ventures could, inter-alia, be financial and managarial difficulties, changed economic conditions in the host country, inadeguate pre-investment project appraisal done by promoters and new trends in the international market. Some countries where joint venture have remained non-operational or are under implementation are Australia, Bahrain, Botswana, Bangladesh, Egypt, Hongkong, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Netherland, Nepal, Nigeria, Panama, Spain, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uganda, U.A.E., U.K. USA, USSR, W.Germny, Venezuela, Vietnam & Hungary.

(d) Government always consider such changes as may be required during the process of implemenatation/ operation and take appropriate decisions.

[*English*]

Export to Soviet Union

3802. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the items like cashewnuts, tobacco etc. exported to Soviet Union under rupee payment are re-exported by them to India's tradional Western customers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE(SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The Trade Agreement with USSR clearly provides that the goods exported from the Republic of India, are meant for use in USSR and India respectively and shall not be reexported to any other country, unless specifically agreed upon between the competent authorities of the two sides. Government had received reports alleging that certain agricultural exports from India were being diverted by the importing organisations.

As a pre-emptive measure certain steps have been taken in the case of exports of various agricultural items. These include:

i) Export benefits were to be recommended only after the exporter had produced a certficate issued by a recognised authority in the importing country that the goods had actually reached.

ii) The provisions whether in terms of quantity or in value terms - laid down in the trade plan were not to be exceeded : and

iii) Exports to the Rupee payment Areas countries should as far as possible be in either Indian vessels or in the vessels of the importing country and use of inter-mediate third country vessels avoided.

If any specific instance of violation of the Agreement comes to the notice of the Government, the matter would be enquired into.

Delegation Of Powers To CCI&E

3803. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the replies given to unstarred question Nos. 132 and 13 on February 22, 1991 and July12,1991 respectively and state: